

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 PARIS 37207 01 OF 02 212021Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 COME-00 EB-08 LAB-04 SIL-01 TRSE-00
OMB-01 /086 W
-----118474 212038Z /40

R 212010Z DEC 77
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3439
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
USMISSION GENEVA
AMCONSUL BORDEAUX
AMCONSUL LYON
AMCONSUL MARSEILLE
AMCONSUL NICE
AMCONSUL STRASBOURG

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 37207

USEEC

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ELAB, FR, ILO
SUBJECT: FORCE OUVRIERE TURNS 30

REF: (A) PARIS 32902; (B) PARIS 32006

1. SUMMARY: FORCE OUVRIERE HAS MARKED ITS 30TH
ANNIVERSARY WITH A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE,
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 PARIS 37207 01 OF 02 212021Z

FEATURING SPEECHES BY GENERAL SECRETARY BERGERON AND
RUSSIAN EXILE ANDRE AMALRIK. END SUMMARY.

2. ON DECEMBER 19-20 THE NATIONAL CONFEDERAL COM-
MITTEE OF FORCE OUVRIERE (FO) HELD AN EXTRAORDINARY
SESSION TO OBSERVE THE UNION'S 30TH ANNIVERSARY. THE
FEATURED EVENTS AT THE MEETINGS WERE SPEECHES BY

GENERAL SECRETARY ANDRE BERGERON AND RUSSIAN EXILE
ANDRE AMALRIK.

3. BERGERON'S SPEECH STRESSED FO'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS SINCE THE 1947 SPLIT (IT CLAIMS TO HAVE ONE MILLION MEMBERS AND TO BE GROWING ALL THE TIME); AND THE CONTINUED VALIDITY OF ITS BASIC PRINCIPLES; OPPOSITION TO POLITICAL CONTROL OVER TRADE UNIONISM AND HOSTILITY TO A COMMUNISM PERCEIVED AS UNCHANGED. WITH RESPECT TO CURRENT EVENTS, BERGERON STRESSED THAT NO COUNTRY ALONE CAN DEAL WITH THE WORLD'S ECONOMIC DISORDERS AND SO EUROPEAN UNITY REMAINS AN IMPERATIVE. ON INTERNATIONAL LABOR AFFAIRS, BERGERON EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER THE FAILURE OF THE EUROPEAN TRADE UNION CONFEDERATION TO LIVE UP TO EXPECTATIONS, AND WARNED THAT BOTH THE WORLD FEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS (WFTU) AND THE WORLD CONFEDERATION OF LABOR (WCL) ARE EMBARKED ON CAMPAIGNS TO PENETRATE AND DISRUPT THE FREE LABOR MOVEMENTS. BERGERON EMPHASIZED THAT THE ONLY SURE DEFENSE AGAINST THESE EFFORTS LIES IN THE STRENGTHENING OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFEDERATION OF FREE TRADE UNIONS (ICFTU), AND IN PARTICULAR IN PERSUADING THE AFL-CIO TO REJOIN THAT ORGANIZATION.

4. BERGERON ALSO DWEIT AT SOME LENGTH ON THE PROBLEMS ARISING OUT OF THE U.S. WITHDRAWAL FROM THE ILO.
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 PARIS 37207 01 OF 02 212021Z

AFTER IDENTIFYING THE SITUATION AS A DIRECT RESULT OF THE POLITICIZATION OF THAT INTERNATIONAL BODY, BERGERON STRESSED THAT FO'S ATTACHMENT TO THE ILO IS SECOND TO NONE AND THAT THE UNION WOULD DO ALL WITHIN ITS POWER TO PERSUADE THE U.S. TO RETURN. HOWEVER, HE ALSO STRESSED THAT THE UNDERLYING DIFFI-

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 PARIS 37207 02 OF 02 212027Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 COME-00 EB-08 LAB-04 SIL-01 TRSE-00
OMB-01 /086 W

-----118512 212038Z /42

R 212010Z DEC 77
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3440
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
USMISSION GENEVA
AMCONSUL BORDEAUX
AMCONSUL LYON
AMCONSUL MARSEILLE
AMCONSUL NICE
AMCONSUL STRASBOURG

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 02 OF 02 PARIS 37207

USEEC

CULTY WAS THE CHANGED COMPOSITION OF THE ILO MEMBER-SHIP WHICH WILL MAKE IT DIFFICULT FOR THE INDUSTRIAL DEMOCRACIES TO TURN THAT ORGANIZATION AROUND. HIS REMARKS ON THE ILO SCENE CONCLUDED WITH THE OBSERVATION THAT: "THE EROSION OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, THE FACT THAT THE UNITED NATIONS IS GOING THE SAME WAY AS THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS, THE AGGRAVATION OF THE ECONOMIC AND MONETARY CRISIS AND THE PROLONGATION OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 PARIS 37207 02 OF 02 212027Z

THAT CRISIS, WHICH THAT AGGRAVATION MAY BRING ABOUT, ARE THE PROSPECTS WHICH DISTURB US, WHICH AGONIZE US."

5. AMALRIK'S SPEECH, DELIVERED IN RUSSIAN WITH A RUNNING TRANSLATION, WAS INTERESTING IN THAT IT RAISED THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE DISSIDENT MOVEMENT IN THE USSR MAY EVENTUALLY SPREAD FROM THE INTELLECTUALS TO THE WORKING CLASS. HE CITED INSTANCES WHERE SUCH DISSIDENT GROUPS OF WORKERS HAVE ALREADY SPRUNG UP ONLY TO BE PROMPTLY SMASHED BY THE SOVIET AUTHORITIES; AND ASSERTED THAT STRIKES AND UNEMPLOYMENT DID EXIST IN THE USSR.

6. COMMENT: IN GENERAL AND DESPITE ITS SOMBER NOTES, BERGERON'S SPEECH (PREVIEWED AT A SMALLER MEETING THE DAY BEFORE, AND RESTATED THAT NIGHT BEFORE A STANDING ROOM ONLY AUDIENCE AT PARIS' INTERNATIONAL CENTER); AND THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE REFLECTED A DEGREE OF OPTIMISM APPROPRIATE TO THE OCCASION, AND THERE WERE FEW SURPRISES. THE ONLY UNUSUAL FEATURE WAS THE EXTENT TO WHICH BERGERON FOCUSED ON THE ILO AND REAFFIRMED FO'S POSITIONS ON THAT PROBLEM (SEE REFS). THIS SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN HIS WAY OF RESPONDING TO THE REPORTED CRITICISM OF THOSE POSITIONS BY CERTAIN OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES, INCLUDING (FO TELLS US) ILO GENERAL SECRETARY BLANCHARD. HARTMAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COMMEMORATIVE CELEBRATIONS, LABOR UNIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 21-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977PARIS37207
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770476-0490
Format: TEL
From: PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771231/aaaabace.tel
Line Count: 184
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 532716ff-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 PARIS 32902, 77 PARIS 32006
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 158923
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FORCE OUVRIERE TURNS 30
TAGS: ELAB, FR, ILO, FORCE OUVRIERE
To: STATE USEEC
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/532716ff-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009